

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 27, 2006. Claims 30-39 and 46-64 remain pending in this application, of which Claims 30, 34, 46, 48, 52, 53, and 60-64 are in independent form. Claims 30, 33-36, 46, 48, 51-55 and 60-64 have been amended to define Applicants' invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner and his supervisor, Ms. Vivian Chin, for extending the courtesy of conducting a telephone interview in this application on September 6, 2006 with one of their attorneys and one of the Applicants to discuss the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. It was tentatively agreed during the interview that the claims would overcome the cited art if the independent claims were amended to include phrases such as "defining a codebook which represents a multivariate vector of one or more spectral features with a corresponding one of a plurality of codes." Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections, an agreement was also reached on amending Claims 30, 35-36, 48, 52 and 54-55 by changing the phrase "and temporally aligned in the string with the corresponding segment of the audio waveform" or similar recitation with a synonymous recitation such as "aligning the string of codes in a time series" or similar recitation.

Claims 30, 33-36, 46, 48, 51-55 and 60-64 have been amended as discussed during the interview. In addition, Applicants submit that the substance of the September 6, 2006 interview is accurately reflected in the Interview Summary issued by the Examiner.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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